

FROM: United Community Corporation
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FOR RELEASE: After 6:00 p.m.
July 28, 1966

The United Community Corporation, Newark's antipoverty agency, today (July 28th) announced it has accepted the resignation of its executive director, Cyril D. Tyson, effective September 30, 1966.

Rabbi Jonathan J. Prinz, a vice-president, and acting president in the absence of Dean C. Willard Heckel, in making the announcement at a press conference at the UCC offices, 124 Branford Place, said "it is with great reluctance that we accept" Mr. Tyson's resignation.

Although it did not come as a surprise, Rabbi Prinz added, "news of his impending departure still comes as a blow to the Corporation."

He explained that Mr. Tyson's stay in Newark, "an enriching one for all" was bound to end one day when he felt his work in the formulation and initial development of program was completed. He helped to put the program on the track, Rabbi Prinz added, "and give it the momentum needed to propel it into the future."

Mr. Tyson, former director of HARYOU-ACT, Inc., of New York City, a forerunner to the present antipoverty program being conducted nationally, came to the United Community Corporation in January 1965.

Soon afterward the agency received its first Federal grant of \$184,000 to develop a citywide Community Action Program.

During the 20 months that followed, the program expanded rapidly--focusing on the development of community corporations and Area Boards, which have become the vehicles for rallying resident participation. A total of \$7,390,145 in Federal funds has been approved for the Community Action Program during this period, including the recently announced Senior Citizens Project and the Small Business Development Center.

In recent years, Mr. Tyson has gained national recognition as a social planner and administrator. He played a key role in the design of the multi-million dollar HARYOU project and later in the implementation of that effort, which provided guidelines for the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and the Community Action Program.

Mr. Tyson was among the planners of the recent White House Conference "To Fulfill These Rights" and currently is active with the National Association for Community Development, of which he is a vice-president. In addition, he is called on frequently as a speaker or to give assistance to agencies seeking to develop similar programs.

He is a member of New York City's antipoverty task force, which was created by Mayor Lindsay to study and make recommendations on the city's program.

In his remarks Rabbi Prinz said "Mr. Tyson's personal vigor and unparalleled intellect have become a symbol of what most of us hope to accomplish.

"The UCC will continue to move forward in the months and years to come. We will miss his presence in Newark greatly but it must be remembered that the work of this Corporation is carried on not by one person but by a host of dedicated volunteers and staff people.

"This experienced staff," he concluded, "remains intact and with them we will continue to work toward the solution of the plaguing disease of poverty. We in the community shall continue to demand excellence, the very best for Newark, in the professional leadership of the UCC.

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STATEMENT BY RABBI JONATHAN J. PRINZ
ACTING PRESIDENT (VICE-PRESIDENT),
UNITED COMMUNITY CORPORATION -- PRESS
CONFERENCE AT 124 BRANFORD PLACE
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY
THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1966

In the absence of Dean Heckel, President of this Corporation, it is my very sad duty to inform the community of the resignation of Cyril D. Tyson as Executive Director of the United Community Corporation. Mr. Tyson, whose resignation becomes effective September 30, 1966, has been with the Corporation since January 1, 1965.

The resignation does not come as a great surprise since Mr. Tyson always told us that he viewed his role in Newark as one of helping to formulate and initiate the Community Action Program of this city. Nevertheless, the news of his impending departure still comes as a blow to the Corporation. It is with great reluctance that we accept it.

While we do not now know of his plans for the future, we have every confidence that he will continue to serve the cause of a better society here in America.

There will, I am sure, be a time when we will have an opportunity to pay tribute to Cyril Tyson. Suffice it to say that he has enriched all of our lives here in Newark during his tenure as Executive Director. He has taught us the full meaning of the "War on Poverty" through his philosophy based on respect for the individual and his potential contribution to the processes that make up the fabric of our economic, social and spiritual life. Mr. Tyson's personal vigor and unparalleled intellect have become a symbol of what most of us hope to accomplish.

There are also some very real and tangible results to which the agency can point with pride as accomplishments under Mr. Tyson's direction. For instance, the United Community Corporation is responsible for the approval of over \$7-million in Federal funds to help develop and carry out programs such as year round pre-school, Blazer Work Training, High School Head Start, Newark Legal Services Project and the Golden Age Project, among others.

Most important is the formation of seven Area Boards--and the intertwining of their memberships so that they would have a greater voice in the planning and conduct of programs. In addition, the UCC projected as an open membership CAP agency is now moving toward its 10,000th member.

During this period, the people of Newark have made remarkable strides in the development of community corporations -- a unique and historic accomplishment. This has been most significant and may well set the pace for other programs, both locally and around the country.

Both Mr. Tyson and the community must be assured, at this time, that the UCC will continue to move forward in the months and years to come. The foundation has been laid, the basic philosophy established--but much remains to be done.

It is sad to reflect on the fact that Mr. Tyson will not be with us to share in the labors and fruits--the moments of joy and sorrow--of the huge undertaking that is about to ensue. The next 6 to 8 months will mark an accelerated effort to strengthen and expand the Area Boards and give them assistance required so that they can express themselves effectively.

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This experienced staff remains intact and with them we will continue to work toward the solution of the plaguing disease of poverty. We in the community shall continue to demand excellence, the very best for Newark, in the professional leadership of the UCC.

Community Information
UCC (7-28-66)